



# 2016 JUNE CALENDAR

## OTTER RIVER & LAKE DENNISON Campgrounds

**Park Interpreter: James**

**Park Phone Number: (978) 939-8962**

All programs are free and open to the public. The daily parking fee is \$8.00 or \$10.00 per day, per vehicle.

Parking fee is based on Massachusetts residency. Visit your local public-library to obtain a day-pass with your library card.

Reasonable accommodations available upon request. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, visit [www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/programs-and-events](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/programs-and-events) then click on 'June' & scroll to Central Region

Sunday	Mon.	Tues	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2  Walk along the CCC Paths 10 – 11:30 am	3  Pond Adventures 1:30 – 3 pm  Welcome Walk @ Otter River 3:30 – 5 pm  Nature Center Open House: Animal Sound Bingo 5:30 – 6:30 pm	4 – MassWildlife Free Fishing Weekend -AND- National Trails Day  “What’s That Tree?” @ Lake Dennison 10 –11:15am  Nature Center Open House: Using Microscopes 1 – 2:30 pm  Otter River Rover 4 – 5:30 pm  Campfire Program @ Lake Dennison 7 – 8 pm
5 – MassWildlife Free Fishing Weekend  Kidleidoscope: Fish 9 – 10:20 am  Dennison Beach Hike 1 – 2 pm  Nature Center Open House: Bear Safety 3 – 4 pm	6  Healthy Heart Trail Walk 10 – 11am	7	8  World Oceans Day	9  Walk along the CCC Paths 10 – 11:30 am	10  Tyke Hike @ Otter River 10 – 11 am Pond Adventures 1:30 – 3 pm Welcome Walk @ Lake- Dennison 3:30 – 5 pm Nature Center Open House: Animal Sound Bingo 5:30 – 6:30 pm	11 Nat’l Get Outdoors Day  “What’s That Tree?” @ Lake Dennison. 10 –11:15am  Nature Center Open House: Using Microscopes 1:30 – 3 pm  Otter River Rover 4 – 5:30 pm  Campfire Program @ Otter River 7 – 8 pm

<b>12</b> <b>Kidleidoscope: Bears</b> 9–10:20am  <b>Dennison Beach Hike</b> 1– 2 pm  <b>Nature Center Open House:</b> <b>Owl Pellets</b> 3 – 4 pm	<b>13</b> <b>Healthy Heart Trail Walk</b> 10 – 11am	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Walk along the CCC Paths</b> 10 – 11:30 am	<b>17</b> <b>Tyke Hike @ Lake Dennison</b> 10 – 11 am <b>Pond Adventures</b> 1:30 – 3 pm <b>Welcome Walk @ Otter River</b> 3:30 – 5 pm <b>Nature Center Open House:</b> <b>Animal Sound Bingo</b> 5:30 – 6:30 pm	<b>18</b> <b>“What’s That Tree?”</b> @ Lake Dennison 10 – 11:30 am <b>Nature Center Open House:</b> <b>Using Microscopes</b> 1:30 – 3 pm <b>Otter River Rover</b> 4 – 5:30 pm <b>Campfire Program</b> @ Lake Dennison 7 – 8 pm
<b>19 – Father’s Day</b> <b>Kidleidoscope: Spiders</b> 9 – 10:20 am  <b>Dennison Beach Hike</b> 1 – 2 pm  <b>Nature Center Open House:</b> <b>Busy Beavers</b> 2:30– 4 pm	<b>20- National Pollinator Week</b>  <b>Healthy Heart Trail Walk</b> 10 – 11am	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Walk along the CCC Paths</b> 10 – 11:30am	<b>24</b> <b>Tyke Hike @ Otter River</b> 10 – 11 am <b>Pond Adventures</b> 1:30 – 3 pm <b>Welcome Walk @ Lake Dennison</b> 3:30 – 5 pm <b>Nature Center Open House:</b> <b>Animal Sound Bingo</b> 5:30 – 6:30 pm	<b>25</b> <b>“What’s That Tree?”</b> @Otter River. 10 –11:15am <b>Nature Center Open House:</b> <b>Using Microscopes</b> 1:30 – 3 pm <b>Otter River Rover</b> 4 – 5:30 pm <b>Campfire Program</b> @ Otter River 7 – 8 pm
<b>26</b> <b>Kidleidoscope: Bees &amp; Butterflies</b> 9 – 10:20 am  <b>Tyke Hike</b> 1 – 2:30 pm  <b>Nature Center Open House:</b> <b>Fascinating Food-web</b> 3:30 – 4 pm	<b>27</b> No Programs	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Inter-national Mud Day	<b>30</b> No Programs		

## OTTER RIVER NATURE CENTER

<b>Nature Center Hours:</b>  <b>Fri 5:30 – 6:30pm</b> <b>Sat 1:30 – 3pm</b> <b>Sun 3 – 4:30pm</b>	Join us at the Nature Center to EXPLORE all the great things to see and do here. Get your bearings of the landscape by surveying a map of our trails and ponds. Examine wildlife furs & track molds, or even see some pretty interesting rocks and minerals up close. Check out a critter skull or examine a bug. Or we have a huge library of nature books. Have you ever looked through a field guide? Maybe you’d like to sit down with a great nature story book!
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We have fun nature games and quizzes that Mom & Dad might enjoy too! Each day during Nature Center Open House, we'll look at a particular topic such as animal & bird-sounds; the food web, forestry, preparing microscope slides for observation, and studying wildlife behavior. The **Otter River Interpretive Center** has something to see and do for all ages, including adults, so why don't you drop by and EXPLORE? \*All children must be accompanied by an adult.\*

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

<b>Kidleidoscope Kids</b>	This program is for young children, ages 3 - 8 (siblings welcome). Meet at the Otter River SF <b>Craft Center</b> located on Beaman Pond. Kidleidoscope is a fun activity on a weekly topic including a themed story, a short walk and creating a related craft. This program will enable very young children to get acquainted with the outdoors and all the fascinating things found there. All children must be accompanied by a parent or adult. Our craft center is chilly, so bring a sweatshirt to dress for the outdoors.
<b>Lake Dennison Beach Hike</b>	<b>Meet the Park Interpreter at the Lifeguard Towers on the Lake Dennison Day Beach</b> for a leisurely walk through the Picnic Area & Day Beach. Find out about all the seasonal secrets that come to life each spring. From vernal pools to beaver dams, each week we'll explore the day-beach and see what's happening. We'll discuss the history of the park, former uses of Lake Dennison and discover old building foundations and other relics of the past. This is a moderately paced walk suitable for all ages. Wear comfortable shoes, bring water, dress for the weather and bring bug repellant if desired. All children must be accompanied by an adult.
<b>Healthy Heart Trail Hike</b>	Walking is part of a healthy life style and what better place to hike than in a beautiful state forest. Mass Parks has developed nearly seventy designated "Healthy Heart Trails" that are the core of our park system and we hope you will make them part of your exercise routine. Our Wilder-McKenzie Trail is a designated Healthy-Heart-Trail and runs 1.2 miles each way. We will walk most of the trail and stop occasionally to discuss our surrounding environment. Make sure to wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes, bring water, and take sunscreen or insect repellant. Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian. <b>Meet next to the Contact Station at Otter River.</b>
<b>Walk Along the CCC Paths</b>	Meet the Park Interpreter at the Otter River Interpretive Center for this 90-minute walk that will explore the history of the Civilian Conservation Corps. During the 1930s the CCC created this park and its many features three generations ago. This will be a moderate walk suitable for all ages. Wear comfortable clothes, bring water. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
<b>Tyke Hike</b>	This 60-minute walk is geared for the children ages 2 and up, accompanied by a parent or adult. It will be an easy walk, looking at plants and animals each week, discovering new and interesting things in the park. Wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes or boots. Bring water and insect repellant if desired. This program is not suitable for strollers. <b>Alternates meeting LOCATION each Friday: Otter River SF Tyke Hike meets at the Interpretive Center -OR- Lake Dennison Tyke Hike meets at the Contact Station/Main Entrance.</b>
<b>Pond Adventures</b>	Like to play in the water? <b>Meet the Park Interpreter at the Beaman Pond Beach</b> at Otter River State Forest and be prepared to get wet! Find out about the critters that live in the Beaman Pond, and learn how the web of life in this small pond connects to Otter River and the Miller's River watershed. Dress to get wet, shoes optional! Children must be accompanied by a parent or adult. All ages welcome!

<b>Welcome Walk</b>	<p>After you settle into your campsite, get your bearings and discover our campground. Trees, birds, fish, frogs, rocks, mammals and plants—this park has a lot to behold—and a long history of culture too. Join park Interpreter James for a guided walk of the campground’s wildlife &amp; history. Or ask him a question about firewood, amenities.</p> <p><b>Alternates LOCATION each Friday: Otter River SF Walk Meet at the Interpretive Center -OR- Lake Dennison Walk meets at the Main Entrance.</b></p>
<b>“What’s That Tree?”</b>	<p><b>Alternates LOCATION each Saturday: Otter River SF hike meets at the Interpretive Center -OR- Lake Dennison hike meets at the Contact Station/Main Entrance.</b> Join your park interpreter for this 90 minute woodland hike and meet the trees, roots and plants that inhabit the Otter River SF &amp; Lake Dennison. Many trees are marked, which will help us with our preliminary tree I.D. We’ll discuss forestry and the how trees make animals habitats too. This hike is suitable for all ages capable of a moderate hike. Wear comfortable clothes, sturdy shoes, bring water, and insect repellent. All children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.</p>
<b>Evening Stroll</b>	<p><b>Meet at the Otter River Interpretive Center</b> for an evening stroll to learn about the history of Otter River. Explore the campground in the evening and see if your “nighttime” senses kick in. This program is suitable for all ages. Bring insect repellent and wear comfortable shoes.</p>
<b>Otter River Rover</b>	<p>Want to see the mighty Otter River? Many campers at our state forest don’t know how to get to Otter River from Beaman Pond. Follow the Park Interpreter for a hike downstream and over the railroad tracks toward downtown Baldwinville. Wear comfortable shoes &amp; bring a water bottle. <b>Meet at the Otter River Interpretive Center.</b></p>
<b>Saturday Night Campfire Program</b>	<p>Join the Park Interpreter for a welcome campfire. We’ll follow Ranger Smokey Bear’s five rules to building a safe campfire, and then we’ll tell stories, sing songs and stargaze. Please bring a flashlight, chair, and bug-spray. BYOM: bring-your-own-marshmallows. All children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.</p> <p><b>Alternates between 3 LOCATIONS each Saturday: Meet at Otter River campsite #3 -OR- Meet at Lake Dennison (East) campsite #59 -OR- Lake Dennison (North) campsite #109.</b></p>